

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

5 A system and method for managing network devices. The framework may
provide a suitable system for managed object data type conversions between various data
description languages, such as an interface definition language (e.g., OMG IDL) and an
abstract syntax notation (e.g., ASN1). This conversion facility may be used in both
request and event network traffic, so common libraries may be used. Two separate
libraries may be used: a converter framework library and a converter implementation
10 library. The framework library provides a collection of classes that may be used by the
clients of the converter libraries. Most classes in the converter framework library are
handle classes (or wrappers) to the real implementation (or body) classes in the converter
implementation library. Framework classes hide the details of the real implementation
classes and provide a simple, consistent interface to any data type converter via IDL. The
15 converter implementation library provides the implementation needed by the framework
to function properly, and may allow various different mappings to be used easily by
implementing them as plug-in modules. The combination of using IDL and generic
typing provides an efficient, generic solution to mapping data types across multiple
platforms, multiple programming languages, and multiple object classes.

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